

New York research firm, shows that a wide range of results are possible from minimal savings to substantial savings. We shouldn't count our medical savings before we have them.

However, the conflict between the economic and political theories does preclude at least the possibility of common ground. So, while the President's Task Force on Health Reform lacks a consistent policy on cost control, he has laid some ground where the seeds of a compromise could sprout.

Let us be realistic. There is little likelihood that a system designed on the principles of managed competition will work perfectly. Not only does it require active management by the Government, consumers, and health care industry leaders, but radically overhauling the health care system is so large a proposition that there could be unpredictable results. So we would make contingencies for controlling health care cost—like more drastic Government intervention—if aspects of the plan are unsuccessful.

Congress always has the option of instituting premium caps if the initial results are worse than we expected. Yet, if we get the philosophy right, then whatever adjustments we make later on will give us the best chance of sustaining reform.

But why build a system of managed competition, if you don't take it for a test drive? The President's own elaborate system of alliances, a national health board, and a new rules for the marketplace do not make sense unless competition takes place.

The question is if we drive our own, or squeeze onto the bus. I am hopeful that President Clinton, and my congressional colleagues, will see the logic of this argument.

POLYPHASER WINS NEVADA EXPORT AWARD

HON. BARBARA F. VUCANOVICH
OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 1994

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, a high technology manufacturing firm in my congressional district in Nevada, has recently won the 1994 Export Award from our Governor. The PolyPhaser Corp. of Minden, NV, designs, tests, and manufactures hundreds of electronic surge suppression products that protect much of our growing technology society from the effects of lightning, electromagnetic pulse, and other forms of electronic surges. The PolyPhaser Corp. produces an array of surge suppression devices ranging from simple coaxial line protectors for video equipment and local area computer networks to complex milspec surge protection devices for advanced U.S. military equipment. Their new range of lightning strike counters and sophisticated grounding components for radio towers, power lines, and telephone lines have provided the communications industry with a new appreciation for the expanding needs of our Nation's power generation and communications systems.

The PolyPhaser Corp. came to Nevada in 1984 from Florida. The company has grown steadily over the years and now employs over 100 Nevadans. The company recently expanded its manufacturing facility in Minden's

Meridian Business Park from 18,000 square feet to over 53,000 square feet. It is now the largest manufacturing facility under one roof in all of Douglas County.

We are certainly proud of Gayle and Roger Block's entrepreneurial spirit in Nevada. I would like to acknowledge their outstanding success in marketing Nevada-based exports to the rest of the world and also Gayle Block's dedicated service on the board of directors of the Nevada Manufacturers Association. At this time I wish to include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the recognition letter from the Nevada District Export Council. It is signed by executive secretary James K. Hellwig, who is the U.S. Department of Commerce/International Trade Administration's office director in Reno. My congratulations go to all of the hard-working folks at the PolyPhaser Corp.

NEVADA DISTRICT
EXPORT COUNCIL,
Reno, NV, May 20, 1994.

ROGER R. BLOCK,
President, PolyPhaser Corp., Minden, NV.

GREETINGS MR. BLOCK: It is my pleasure to officially notify you that the PolyPhaser Corporation is the northern Nevada recipient of the 1994 Governor's Export Award.

Through your firm's dedicated efforts in expanding export sales, PolyPhaser is making significant and lasting contributions to the state's, and the nation's, economic development. It is precisely for the purpose of exemplifying firms such as yours, as models for other companies to emulate, that the Export Awards were created.

The award will be presented during the "Governor's Export Award Luncheon" on May 26. There will be headtable seating for the award recipients, key-note speaker, trade promotion officials, and the Governor. By now, you have received the flier on the lunch that I faxed to J.J. Johnson. I would recommend coming early to the lunch so that we may finalize any remaining matters, and so that you may orient yourselves to the facilities.

Enclosed you will find a rough draft of the luncheon agenda. We hope that whomever receives the award on behalf of PolyPhaser will make a few remarks on the importance of exporting to the company.

I will call next week to gather additional information for my part of the agenda—providing the background information on the recipient companies, and to see if there is anything left to be said or done before the award luncheon. In the meantime, should you need anything, don't hesitate to call me at 702-784-5203.

Again, my warmest congratulations on receiving the award.

Sincerely,

JAMES K. HELLWIG,
Executive Secretary.

WASHINGTON REPORT

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON
OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 1994

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, June 29, 1994, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK

U.S. agriculture continues its strong performance. Net cash income is expected to match last year's record level of \$59 billion. The value of exports in 1994 is forecast to

equal last year's level of \$42.5 billion. Although the value of exports has remained stagnant, there has been a rise in high value exports, particularly dairy, meat and poultry.

FY 1995 BUDGET

On June 17, the House approved a bill providing \$68 billion for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for next year. Roughly \$55 billion will support mandatory spending such as food stamps and price and income supports and the remainder will support discretionary USDA programs such as farm credit, crop insurance, research, and extension. In recent years, agriculture has averaged about 1/2 of USDA's budget with most of the balance funding food, nutrition, and consumer programs. Congress will continue its work on the FY 1995 budget to assure that farmers receive full benefit for each dollar spent.

TRADE

Opening export markets is critical for U.S. farmers. One out of every three acres of cropland already goes for export each year, and U.S. productivity continues to rise. Because the US economy cannot consume all the output from the steady rise in farm productivity, expanding global export markets must be a primary policy goal. The growth in the markets for value-added farm products—like corn oil and soybean meal—will also help absorb the added production.

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) became effective in January, and will phase out barriers in US, Mexican, and Canadian agricultural trade over 15 years. Once fully implemented, US agricultural exports are expected to be \$2.6 billion higher annually than without the agreement. Although still early, the initial indicators are favorable. The value of US exports to Mexico in the first three months of this year was \$1.44 billion, or about 12% higher than during the same period in 1993. Congress is working on implementing legislation to the Uruguay-Round of the GATT, which would cover agriculture for the first time. If adopted by the member countries, those countries would be required to make significant cuts in the value and volume of agricultural export subsidies. Discussion continues on how to pay for the loss of revenue that will result from the agreement's tariff reductions. I have discussed this matter with the administration, and have made it clear that I will oppose funding proposals that unfairly place the burden of paying for the loss of revenue on the backs of farmers. The administration is also seeking new trade negotiating authority that would permit Chile and other Latin American countries to join the free trade agreement between the US, Mexico, and Canada. I know of no single step that would help farmers more to expand US agricultural exports. New global markets provide the American farmer with exciting opportunities.

NEW USES

The Clean Air Act of 1990 expanded the role of cleaner fuels, such as ethanol, in fighting air pollution. The administration proposed a rule that would carve out a specific niche for corn-based fuel additives in the reformulated gasoline market. The rule, which will be finalized this month, will help corn growers. I believe that developing industrial uses of crops and producing new crops for new uses are promising ways to increase markets for agricultural products.

USDA REORGANIZATION

Earlier this month the House Agriculture Committee approved a bill that would strengthen the Agriculture Secretary's authority to reorganize the agency. The centerpiece of the bill is a new Farm Services

Agency that would carry out price and income support, crop insurance, and farm credit programs. Conservation programs would be placed in a new Natural Resources Conservation Service. The bill would require the administration to meet certain cost saving goals and to merge, consolidate or close a number of its field offices. However, the bill would require that job reductions in Washington DC be larger on a percentage basis than those in the field offices. I agree with the priority placed on making the largest cuts from USDA headquarters. My goal is to reduce the bureaucracy and save money, while providing improved service to farmers. The full House may debate the reorganization bill this week. The Senate approved its own version of a reorganization bill in April.

CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The 1985 farm act established several programs to provide incentives to encourage soil conservation, and the 1990 farm act established additional programs to address mainly water quality issues. The upcoming reauthorization of the Clean Water Act will again focus attention on agriculture's role in non-point pollution and wetlands conversion; laws governing pesticide sale and use will also be reviewed. I want Congress to look at these proposals with great care. I will support farmer friendly approaches to legislation. I do not want to penalize farmers.

1995 FARM ACT

Enhancing farmers' competitiveness will be a high priority in the 1995 farm act debate. Congress is expected to take steps beyond the 1985 and 1990 farm acts to achieve greater market orientation. More than in the past, agricultural policy will likely be linked to national priorities, including job creation in rural America. Environmental policies will also be reviewed. For instance, debate has begun concerning what will happen to the 36 million acres of highly erodible cropland enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program when CRP contracts begin expiring in 1995. Discussion on these and other issues is just getting started and will likely culminate in the 1995 farm act.

OUTLOOK

Strong economic growth and low interest and inflation rates will continue to help US farmers. They will also benefit from the lowest debt-to-asset ratio—a key indicator of farm financial health—in 25 years. There will be challenges for US agriculture, including declining price and income supports, increased competition from abroad, lower sales to the former Soviet Union, and reduced US export subsidies under GATT. My view is that overall US agriculture is in a strong competitive position to succeed over the decade. As Congress prepares for the renewal of the farm act next year, my hope is that greater economic growth at home and abroad and stable production expenses will help US farmers strengthen their position as the world's leading producers.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF WALLED LAKE

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 1994

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, the city of Walled Lake turns 40 years old this year. Founded back in 1954, the residents have a great deal to be proud of, moving forward into the 21st century while still maintaining their strong sense of community and tradition.

Since its earliest settlers in the early 1830's, Walled Lake has been a crossroads in the region. Back then, as it is today, it was an economy based on quality service and an honest day's labor.

Incorporated in 1954, the city had just over 3,200 residents. Today, however, they number more than twice as many. And they did it by maintaining a sound mix of residential and industrial development.

Through the efforts of the mayor, the city council, and the downtown development authority a number of farsighted infrastructure projects have been completed or are underway.

Walled Lake, unlike a number of other cities, planned for its future early-on by constructing a city-wide water system in the late 1960's.

Again in the early 1970's, by constructing a city-wide sewer system, serviced by the Walled Lake-Nowi Sewage Treatment Plant. And Walled Lake's leaders followed this up by paving their city streets.

Currently, the city is working on a number of similar infrastructure projects: the extension of Maple Road to reduce traffic congestion; and the widening of Pontiac Trail and Maple Road for public safety and landscape enhancements.

And in the not so distant future, the city of Walled Lake is considering such economic boons as: an industrial park, and a 110,000 square foot shopping center.

Combined, these are quite exciting times in this proud little city.

It is this sense of sustained community improvement and pride that has helped build Walled Lake into the type of place that draws visitors and residents-to-be from around the State and the entire region.

The city's leaders and citizenry have a great deal to look back on with pride, and even more prosperity can be seen in their future. This is especially appropriate considering Walled Lake's motto: "Pride in our past—Faith in our future."

I can only imagine what type of prosperity the next 40 years will bring to this fine city.

THE COMMUNICATIONS OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 1994

HON. CARLISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 1994

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my distinguished colleagues, Mr. RICHARDSON and Mrs. SCHROEDER, in introducing the Communications Opportunity Act of 1994. This legislation represents an important step in guaranteeing increased marketplace penetration by small businesses, women, minority-owned and rural firms, or so-called designated entities, in emerging telecommunications technologies.

Today the Federal Communications Commission [FCC] formally announced its final rules for designated entity participation in auctions of broadband radio spectrum for a new generation of wireless technologies known as personal communications services or PCS. These technologies will allow a type of two-way, location independent communication

among individuals that was viewed as mere fantasy as little as a few decades ago.

I, along with my colleagues, have been thoroughly engaged in efforts to ensure that the preferences given designated entities in these auctions will be effective and we are heartened by the FCC's actions today. It remains imperative that women, minorities, and small businesses become PCS license holders rather than mere auction participants.

The 1993 budget act gave the FCC a congressional mandate to disseminate licenses for spectrum-based telecommunications services among broad segments of the population which historically have faced barriers to market entry. While the FCC has formulated workable licensing preferences for designated entities, we intend to keep the pressure on the Commission to substantively carry out the responsibilities with which it has been charged both now and into the future through our legislation.

Underrepresentation of women and minorities in the telecommunications field is well documented. A perfect example can be found in the cellular telephone industry, which generates in excess of \$10 billion a year, yet a comprehensive 1991 study by the U.S. Minority Business Development Agency found that only 11 minority firms were offering services in this market. Even more distressing, this same study clearly indicated that less than 1 percent of all telecommunications companies were minority-owned.

For women-owned firms, the statistics are similar. As reported in 1993, the Census Bureau's survey of women-owned businesses found that only 1.9 percent of these firms were involved in the communications field. Given estimates stating the possibility of PCS becoming a \$100 billion-a-year industry, it is absolutely imperative that we seize the moment to ensure that designated entities are players in this vital arena.

The Communications Opportunity Act of 1994 will strengthen the mandate given the FCC in the 1993 budget act and codify specific ways, such as targeted set-asides, in which the Commission could guarantee licenses to designated entities. Our aim in drafting this legislation has been to ensure that designated entities are not simply bystanders on the shoulder of the superhighway on-ramp but rather drivers in its express lanes.

It is widely recognized that emerging telecommunications technologies are key to both the present and future stability and strength of the U.S. economy. Today's evolving industries will provide thousands of jobs for our citizens and bolster American competitiveness.

Because of this fact, we cannot allow those individuals, institutions, and business interests that are now on the fringe or are traditionally the last to benefit from technological changes to be left behind, given the enormous opportunities these technological changes present. The inclusion or exclusion of designated entities in emerging technologies will dictate the fate of women, minorities, and small businesses owners and the communities in which they live and work as we head into the 21st century.

The Communications Opportunity Act of 1994 will ensure effective inclusion of designated entities in cutting-edge telecommunications industries. I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting and moving this vital legislation forward.